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P.2.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty.'s Docket: UEMURA=5

In re Application of:)	PCT BRANCH - BOX PCT
)	
Hidetoshi UEMURA et al)	IA Appln. PCT/JP99/06473
)	IA Filing Date: 11/19/1999
Appln. No.: 09/856,319)	
)	Washington, D.C.
Filed: May 21, 2000)	
)	July 31, 2001
For: NOVEL SERINE PROTEASE ...)	

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application,
please amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Delete claims 1-10 and 34 and add the following new
claims 35-43 as follows:

35. (New) A protein selected from the group
consisting of:

(a) a protein having the amino acid sequence
composed of 231 amino acids represented by the 1st to 231st
amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a protein having an amino acid sequence derived
from the amino acid sequence represented by the 1st to 231st
amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2 by deletion, substitution or